

Unit Title: Interview suspects in relation to priority and volume investigations (CJ201)

OCR unit number: Y/502/5599

Level: 3

Credit value: 5

Guided learning hours: 50

Unit purpose and aim

This unit is about interviewing suspects as part of priority and volume investigations. The unit covers interviews with suspects who are under arrest and those who are not under arrest, whether the interview is conducted at police premises or elsewhere. The learner must plan and prepare for interviews by developing an interview plan, assessing the suspect's fitness for interview, and setting up an appropriate location. They must conduct interviews in accordance with legislation, policy and other guidelines using appropriate interviewing techniques and communication skills. Finally, learners are expected to evaluate interviews (including their own performance) and take any necessary further action.

Learning Outcomes	Assessment Criteria	Knowledge, understanding and skills
<p>The Learner will:</p> <p>1 Know and understand relevant legal and organisational requirements in relation to interviewing suspects</p>	<p>The Learner can:</p> <p>1.1 Identify the legislation, policies, procedures, codes of practice, professional practice and organisational requirements and guidelines in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conducting interviews with suspects • race, diversity and human rights • health, safety, security and welfare • dealing with suspects and relevant others in an ethical and effective manner • rules of evidence and disclosure. 	<p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PACE & Codes of Practice • Human Rights Legislation • Criminal Procedure and Investigations Act 1996 • Organisational procedures and policies.
<p>2 Know and understand the principles of interviewing suspects</p>	<p>2.1 Describe the features of an interview strategy and indicate resources which can assist in developing the strategy.</p>	<p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questioning techniques • Use of evidence/exhibits • Use of technology such as CCTV evidence • Points of law to prove.

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	<p>2.2 Describe the role of 'relevant others' regarding the interview of suspects (eg prosecutors, legal representatives, appropriate adults, health care professionals, custody officer, officers required for legal authorities, colleagues, interpreters).</p> <p>2.3 Describe the features of approved interview techniques and communication methods.</p> <p>2.4 Explain the importance of appropriate timings locations and environmental conditions to the conduct of interviews (eg urgent interviews, interviews at the scene, in police premises, healthcare facility).</p> <p>2.5 Describe the types of contingencies (eg legal, medical, welfare, abusive or aggressive behaviour, technical faults, complaints and environmental conditions) that might arise during interview and how to deal with them.</p> <p>2.6 Describe the procedures and reasons for assuming responsibility for suspects.</p>	<p>This role may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting • Providing legal advice • Interpreting • Overseeing welfare • Medical advice and assistance. <p>Features may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation and planning • Engage and explaining • Account • Closure • Evaluation • Questioning techniques. <p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with custody requirements • Compliance with granted authorities • Best evidence gathering protocols • Seriousness of the offence • Type of offence. <p>Contingencies may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal • Medical • Welfare • Abusive or aggressive behaviour • Technical faults. <p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure escorting • Completion of documents • Welfare and security of the suspect • Returning suspect to responsibility to the Custody Officer.

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<p>3 Be able to plan and prepare interviews with suspects</p>	<p>3.1 Review the material in relation to the incident in question (eg information, objects, written documentation, audio recording, passive data generators, visual images).</p> <p>3.2 Identify the factors that affect a suspect's fitness for interview, and explain how these inform their approach to interviews (eg intoxication by drink or drugs, behaviour, age, physical disorder or disability, learning disability, mental health).</p> <p>3.3 Describe the use of the following resources during interviews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • audio/video recording equipment • appropriate documentation • exhibits. <p>3.4 Prepare for a pre-interview briefing with a legal advisor by determining the extent and supply of appropriate material.</p>	<p>Material may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information • Objects • Written documentation • Audio recording • Passive data generators • Visual images. <p>Factors may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drink • Drugs • Aggressive behaviour • Age • Physical disorder or disability • Learning disability • Mental health • Physical injury. <p>Approach may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice from a Doctor • Hospital treatment • Use of appropriate adult • Suspend the interview. <p>This may be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written explanation • Verbal explanation. <p>Preparation may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent of disclosure • No disclosure • Disclosure of specific pieces of evidence.
<p>4 Be able to conduct an interview with a suspect</p>	<p>4.1 Deliver a pre-interview briefing to a legal representative prior to interview.</p> <p>4.2 Assume responsibility for a suspect ensuring their safety, security and welfare and that of relevant others (eg legal representatives, appropriate adults, healthcare professionals, interpreters and colleagues).</p>	<p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone • Face to face. <p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Escorting from place to place • Taking care of welfare issues • Providing relevant information.

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	<p>4.3 Explain the interview process to all those present and confirm understanding.</p> <p>4.4 Use the required caution, evidential or special warning and confirm the suspect's understanding.</p> <p>4.5 Conduct interviews with suspects in a manner which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is ethical and effective • employs appropriate interview techniques and communication methods • makes appropriate use of exhibits • addresses any contingencies which arise (eg medical, welfare, hostile/reluctant behaviour, environmental conditions). <p>4.6 Conclude the interview by informing all those present of the next steps including, where appropriate, the relevant legal processes.</p> <p>4.7 Complete all relevant documentation, and obtain any necessary endorsements eg interview notes, pocket notebook, criminal justice statements and exhibit forms.</p>	<p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of tapes/video • Individual responsibilities • Legal entitlements • Interview format. <p>Confirmation may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal confirmation • Signatures. <p>This will require knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PACE and Code of Practice • Special warning legislation. <p>Interviews may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation and planning • Engage and explaining • Account • Closure • Evaluation • Questioning techniques • Allow the interviewee appropriate rights • Caring for the interviewee's welfare • Resolve appropriately a range of contingencies. <p>Conclusion may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stating the interview has come to an end • Completion of relevant forms and documents • Sealing of any tapes • Provision of tapes to suspect. <p>Documentation may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview notes • Pocket notebooks • Criminal justice statements • Exhibit forms • Custody records • Property records.

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5 Be able to evaluate interviews with suspects and carry out post-interview procedures	5.1 Evaluate the interview and all available material and prioritise any further action (eg other lines of enquiry, charge, release, arrest or no further action). 5.2 Update relevant others and intelligence systems based on the evaluation of the interview. 5.3 Evaluate their own performance in interviews and identify any learning points.	Evaluation may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of witness statements • Review of interview. Further action may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional enquiries • Charge • Release • Bail • Arrest • no further action. Relevant others may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPS • Criminal Justice Units • Supervisors and Managers • Legal advisors. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion with colleagues • Reflective practice • Review of interview tapes • Review of statements.

Assessment

Knowledge Element

Application of knowledge should be demonstrated in a learning and development environment prior to application in the workplace

Workplace Assessment:

Competence must be practically assessed on three occasions in the workplace

Guidance on assessment and evidence requirements

Candidates must produce their own work and assessors use a range of assessment methods.

Candidates may provide evidence of knowledge and understanding prior to, or during the assessment phase.

You should refer to the '*Admin Guide: Vocational Qualifications (A850)*' for *Notes on Preventing Computer-Assisted Malpractice*.

Details of relationship between the unit and national occupational standards

CJ201, AA1, AB1, AE1, AF1, CA1

Additional information

For further information regarding administration for this qualification, please refer to the OCR document '*Admin Guide: Vocational Qualifications*' (A850).